

REMARKS

Claims 18-47 are pending in the application.

Claims 18-47 stand rejected.

Claims 18, 21-22, 24-25, 28, 30, 32, 34-35, 38, 40, 42 and 44 have been amended.

Claims 1-17 have been previously cancelled.

Claims 19-20, 23, 31, 33, 41, 43 and 47 have been cancelled.

Formal Matters

Claims 23, 34, 33, 34, 43 and 47 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Appreciation is expressed for the indicated allowability of claims 23, 34, 33, 34, 43 and 47. In response, independent claims 18, 30 and 40 have been amended to recite certain of the limitations of these claims. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments put independent claims 18, 30 and 40 in condition for allowance.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 18-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended independent claims 18, 30 and 40 to address the Examiner's concerns, and respectfully submit that this rejection is overcome thereby.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103

While not conceding that the references cited below qualify as prior art, but instead to expedite prosecution, Applicants have chosen to amend and so traverse the rejection as noted. Applicants reserve the right, for example, in a continuing application, to establish that the cited references, or other references cited now or hereafter, do not qualify as prior art as to an invention embodiment previously, currently, or subsequently claimed.

Claims 18-22, 28-32, 38-42 and 44-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uphadya, U.S. Patent No. 5,408,618 (Uphadya) in view of Holland, U.S. Patent No. 5,987,026 (Holland). In light of the aforementioned amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing rejection is overcome thereby.

Claims 25-27 and 35-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uphadya, U.S. Patent No. 5,408,618 (Uphadya) in view of Holland, U.S. Patent No. 5,987,026 (Holland) in further view of Taniguchi, U.S. Patent No. 6,122,250 (Taniguchi) and Black, TCP/IP and Related Protocols, McGraw-Hill, 1998, p ages 1, 2 and 166-169 (Black). In light of the aforementioned amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing rejection is overcome thereby.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 18, 30 and 40 overcome the foregoing rejections, and all claims dependent upon them, and thus that they are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore request the Examiner's reconsideration of the foregoing rejections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5084.

If any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) are required in order for this submission to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. Applicant also hereby authorizes that any fees due for such extensions or any other fee associated with this submission, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, be charged to deposit account 502306.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. G. Campbell, III', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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